SHRISUNIL DUTT: Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Member, who is a senior Member. He asked a very good question which is actually to my heart also. The physical fitness is related with a proper diet and proper nutrition. How many people are there in our country who can have a proper meal? If the Government guarantees that people in poorest areas can have a proper meal and proper food to build up their muscles, I think, we can churn out very great athletes. Sir, as far as our programmes are concerned, we are trying to go through schools, and we are planning that every school in the villages must have a playground. The food that is being supplied to the schools should also be checked up so that it has proper nutrition diet and proper calories so that the youths are really healthy to go to the playgrounds. Sir, we have one billion people, and out of one billion people, I want to know how many children in our country go to sports grounds and play games. 'One billion' is okay, but there are very few children who are going to playgrounds and play games.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough. Next question. Shri Ramachandraiah.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, I want to put a very small question *...(Interruptions)...* I want to know *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, No. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DINESHTRIVEDI: Right from cricket to Kabbadi, the sports have been *...(Interruptions).* Would the Minister consider that the money which you earn from cricket will be spent on other games? *...(Interruptions)...*

Private Participation in Rural Development

*309. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been initiated by Government for rural development through private sector;

(b) if so, which are the areas identified; and

(c) what are the details of facilities, concessions given to the private sector in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Ministry of Rural Development has approved two special projects for generation of self-employment with private participation. The areas covered by these projects and the details of concessions/facilities offered to the private sector for these projects are indicated below:

(i) Livelihood Advancement Business School: The objective of the project is to identify and make available potential livelihood options for 35,000 below poverty line (BPL) youth in the age group of 18-35 years and train them in skills according to the market requirements, thereby working towards achieving the goal of poverty reduction. Dr. Reddy's Foundation is to implement the project in 7 States. The total cost of the project is Rs. 14 crore, out of which the Government share is 75 per cent.

(ii) Self-Help Group Mobilization, Capacity Building and Credit Linkage: The objective of the project is group mobilization, capacity building and credit linkage of the Self Help Groups (SHGs). ICICI Bank is to implement the project in two States at a total cost of Rs. 15 crore. The Ministry of Rural Development would provide an amount of Rs. 10,000/- per SHG for social mobilization and Rs. 5,000/- per SHG for capacity building to ICICI Bank.

2. While the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is implemented by the State Governments, the works are executed by contractors who are generally in the private sector. The contracts are awarded through well established tendering procedures. In addition, the Ministry of Rural Development has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Shree Warana Rural Roads Development & Maintenance Co-operative Society Limited (WARANA) and Government of Maharashtra to enable the Society to execute PMGSY works in three districts of maharashtra. The MOU envisages planting of fruit trees by the Society on the sides of the roads and the revenue from these trees would accrue to the Society.

3. A National Fund for Rural Development (NFRD) also exists, to which individuals, corporate and non-corporate bodies can make donations. The NFRD is envisaged to act as a channel for mobilizing efforts and resources for rural development. The accruals to the Fund are to be used for rural development projects, which may be implemented by the private sector also. Donations made by all categories of tax-payers to the National Fund for Rural Development are fully deductible from taxable income.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, time is very short. I will confine myself to only one supplementary. Any effort on the part of the Government to provide more employment for rural empowerment is welcome. But, Sir, the thing is that, most of the funds that the Government of India is retaining, they are formulating schemes but they are not aware of resources which are available in the State and they are trying to thrust those schemes on the State Governments'. There is an absolute overlapping of the schemes, which the State Governments and the Government of India are formulating. So, my question to the Minister is: Why don't you give more funds to the States, leaving it to the discretion of the States, who know the demands of the people, who know the aspirations of the people, so that by considering the local resources available they can formulate schemes for rural development and empowerment?

श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह : सभापति महोदय, इससे संबंधित जितनी राशि है, वह राज्य सरकारों को दी जाती है। हमारे यहां, केन्द्र के पास कौन सी एजेंसी हैं जिसके द्वारा हम पैसे खर्च करें? सारे पैसे राज्य सरकारों को दिए जाते हैं । कुछ जो employment wages के पैसे है और इंदिरा आवास के पैसे हैं, वे directly DRDO को जाते हैं और 15 दिनों के अंदर पंचायती राज को जाते हैं । ये दोनों योजनाएं पंचायती राज के मार्फत लागू होती हैं और बाकी DRDO के माध्यम से लागू होती हैं। केन्द्र सरकार से जो भी पैसे बेकारी मिटाने वाली योजनाओं के लिए दिए जाते हैं, जैसे स्वर्ण जयंती ग्रामीण स्वरोजगार योजना है, वह राशि भी DRDO में जाती है और उस राशि को वहां ट्रेनिंग में , बैंक से लिंक कराने में, स्वंय सहायता समूह बनाने में, ऋण प्रदान करने में इस्तेमाल किया जाता है । इस तरह से बेकारी हटाने के लिए और Productive employment लाने के लिए यह सारी राशि इस्तेमाल की जाती है, राज्य सरकारों पर कुछ थोपा नहीं है।

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, my question is, why do you formulate the schemes while sitting in De'hi. You leave it to the discretion of the States. They will formulate according to the needs of the people and according to the resources available. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: My request is that Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Internal security

*303. SHRIMATI HEMAMALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: